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Instructions have also been issued for the investigation and execution of schemes for new irrigation works and improvements to existing works by the Minor Irrigation staff. A copy of G.O. No. 2314,[a] Revenue, dated 16th November 1927, is placed on the table.

As regards repairs to minor works to be carried out by the Public Works Department, the question of accelerating their execution was recently considered by Government and two additional divisions, one for the Madras Circle, including the Ceded districts, and another for the Bezwada Circle, have been sanctioned with the necessary additional establishment. A copy of G.O. No. 1814 I.,[b] dated 25th July 1928, on the subject is placed on the table.

Improvement of the water-supply in the Palar river.

* 202 Q.—Mr. C. VENKATARANGAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of days or months for which water was received in the Kaverippakkam, Mayendiravadi and Dusi tanks (North Arcot district) in the Palar anicut system since the resettlement in 1914;

(b) whether there is any proposal to augment the supply of water in the Palar; and

(c) whether the Government will lay on the table a statement showing—

(1) the extent of the ayacut,

(2) the total assessment, and

(3) the amount of remissions granted under the aforesaid three tanks within the past five years?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Information on these points has been called for.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Kaverippakkam tank received its normal supply of water only once during the last ten years?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"The information that we have is that the tank has received supply 64 times within twenty years."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"That is not an answer to my question."

Irrigation of lands under the Muniyeru channel.

* 203 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF MIRZAPURAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased (i) to place on the table a statement showing (a) the areas cultivated with wet crop under the Muniyeru channel in each fasli from 1866 to 1927, (b) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Zamindar of Chintalapati Vantu for the construction, development and maintenance of the irrigation scheme, and (c) the revenue realized by him during each of the years in the said period and (ii) to state—

(a) whether ever since the Zamindar of Chintalapati Vantu was authorized in B.P. No. 7888, dated 31st October 1866, to execute the Muniyeru channel work at his own cost and make necessary arrangements, the Government have considered the desirability of taking up the project

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 412–413 infra. [b] Separately laid on the table.

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themselves and making improvements in accordance with the opinion expressed by Colonel G. V. Winson, R.E., Superintending Engineer, that the scheme was feasible and might even yield a small profit on the outlay incurred;

(b) whether the permission granted to the Zamindar of Chintalapati Vantu in B.P. No. 7888, dated 31st October 1866, was not intended to extend irrigation only to the Government lands in Nandigama village;

(c) if so, whether the Government are aware that the Zamindar now intends to utilize the Muniyeru water to his home farm and ryoti lands in extent of about 400 and 600 acres respectively in Kancherla village which is about three miles away from Nandigama;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the Zamindar of Chintalapati Vantu has been arbitrarily granting or refusing permission for the irrigation of dry lands, withdrawing water from the fields which were irrigated for some years and coercing the people to execute agreements with harassing terms and thus utilizing the permission granted to him purely for his personal advantage much to the prejudice of the Government ryots in Nandigama village;

(e) if the Government have no information whether they will be pleased to call for a report and examine the methods adopted by the Zamindar in the matter of supplying water for irrigation and in the matter of extending the irrigation from time to time; and

(f) whether the Government will now order a complete investigation of the project and consider whether it will not be financially advantageous to them to take up the project into their own hands and extend irrigation facilities to as many villages as possible?

A.—A report has been called for.

The Zamindar of Mirzapuram:—"May I know whether the report, when received, will be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"When the report has been received, the hon. Member's suggestion that it should be placed on the table of the House will be considered."

Land Assignment

Assignment of lands in Nedungal reserve.

*204 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that contrary to the original instructions of the Government, the Collector of North Arcot is attempting to dispose of a large extent of land in the Nedungal reserve, to Christians of Wandiwash and other places at the instance of one Rev. Father Paul;

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to issue instructions to the Collector to give up all endeavours in that direction;

(c) whether they will be pleased to direct the Collector of North Arcot, to reserve for the village-site of the caste Hindus, the plots originally intended for them without giving them away to the Adi-Dravidas of other villages;

(d) whether Aundi Goundan has submitted a memorial claiming an assignment of certain lands to him and his party; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to cancel the sales of lands held contrary to his claims?